



File Code: 1950; 2720

Date: November 07, 2018

Dear Interested Party,

The White River National Forest is preparing an environmental assessment for Copper Mountain Resort (CMR) to review the proposed Snowmaking and Summer Uses Project. The proposed project would take place entirely within the existing CMR Special Use Permit (SUP) area.

I will determine whether or not to approve all or part of the proposal, including:

- The expansion of snowmaking coverage by approximately 86 acres and accompanying stream mitigation to ensure the proposed snowmaking coverage can be implemented in accordance with required Forest Plan stream health standards;
- Expansion of the existing mountain biking trail network by approximately 23.6 miles;
- Expansion of the existing hiking trail network by approximately 13.7 miles;
- The addition of summer programming centered around overnight camping; and
- The extension of the existing "A-1" mountain access road by approximately 370 feet to provide access to the Olie Lind parcel.

The proposed projects are intended to improve available recreation opportunities at CMR in several ways. The snowmaking component of the project would ensure timely opening of the resort as well as adequate snow coverage on all trails where snowmaking infrastructure is installed. The summer trails and summer programming components of the project would widen the variety of adventure-based recreation opportunities available to people of all ability levels and during all seasons of the year. There is a need to implement these projects to improve upon existing and to provide additional recreation opportunities for the public at CMR, which would ultimately ensure the availability of high quality recreation opportunities on the WRNF.

An interactive story map highlighting the Proposed Action and preliminary findings is available at: <https://goo.gl/c4HZqY>.

The formal Notice of Proposed Action (NOPA) is available for review online at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54909>. The notice and supporting documentation is also available for review at the Dillon Ranger District Office, located at 680 Blue River Parkway, Silverthorne, CO 80498. Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from: Sam Massman at smassman@fs.fed.us or by phone at (970) 262-3484.

How to Comment and Timeframe

Please note that this period is serving as both scoping and the sole comment period for the Proposed Action. There will not be another opportunity to comment.



Specific written comments on the proposed project will be accepted for 30 calendar days following the publication of a legal notice in the *Post Independent*, on November 07, 2018. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the comment period.

Written comments (regarding Forest Service questions and concerns) must be submitted by:

Mail:

Scott Fitzwilliams, Forest Supervisor
c/o Sam Massman, Project Leader
Dillon Ranger District
PO Box 620
Silverthorne, CO 80498

In person:

Sam Massman, Project Leader
680 Blue River Parkway
Silverthorne, CO, 80498
(Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays)

Electronic:

[Online comment form \(https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=54909\)](https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=54909)

Note: the name and mailing address of the person submitting electronic comments must be included.

It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period. Only those who submit timely and specific written comments will have eligibility to file an objection under §218.8. For objection eligibility, each individual or representative from each entity submitting timely and specific comments must either sign the comment or verify identify upon request. Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to object must meet the information requirements in §218.25(a)(3). Names and contact information submitted with comments will become part of the public record and may be released under the Freedom of Information Act. Electronic formats accepted include email, PDF, word documents, spreadsheets, most images, etc.

Sincerely,

SCOTT FITZWILLIAMS
Forest Supervisor

cc: William Jackson, Sam Massman, Bryan West